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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/772,160

02/03/2004

Ronald C. Tate

1505-0170

1860

7590

02/24/2006

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, JIMMY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2829

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/772,160

Applicant(s)

TATE, RONALD C.

Examiner

Jimmy Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1- 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Argument

The applicant's amendment filed 2/2/06 has been carefully considered with the following effect;

The applicant argues that the Jackson reference does not disclose all the limitation of claim 1. For example, the Jackson reference does not disclose a second current coil "constructed substantially identical in shape" to a first current coil, as set forth in claim 1 (page 8 of the remark). The examiner respectfully traverses this argument. The first and the second current coil (18a, 18b) are substantially identical in shape, because figure 1 only illustrates the side view of the meter, further the applicant is using the term "SUBSTANTIALLY" which means the two are not exactly identical. Further based on figure 1, Jackson et al has substantially identical shape. Therefore, the Jackson reference is still read on the claim invention.

The applicant argues that if the two sections at issue in Jackson are substantially the same as noted by the examiner above, how can they also be substantially different. This statement clearly indicates that "if the two sections are substantially the same that means they are not exactly the same, they are almost the same but somehow there is the small degree is still different."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 – 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jackson et al (US 5,933,004).

As to claim 1, Jackson et al disclose (fig 1) a current coil arrangement in an electricity meter, comprising:

a first current coil (18a) having two current blades (22a, 24a) and a middle portion extending therebetween, the two current blades (22a, 24a) configured to be received by a utility meter socket device, the middle portion (the curve portion) and the current blades (22a, 24a) being integrally formed of a conductive material, the first current coil (18a) being asymmetrical about the midpoint between the two current blades (22a, 24a) , the first current coil (18a) disposed at least partially within the electricity meter (26);and

a second current coil (18b) disposed at least partially within the electricity meter (26), the second current coil (18b) constructed substantially identical in shape to the first current coil (18a) such that the second current coil is interchangeable with the first current coil (because of the first current coil 18a and the second current coil 18b are substantially identical based on the figure 1)

As to claim 2, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the current coil arrangement of claim 1, wherein the middle portions of the first current coil (18a) and the second current coil (18b) pass in a current sensing relationship to a first current transformer (16a).

As to claim 3, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the middle portions (the curved portion) of the first current coil (18a) and the second current coil (18b) pass through a void (the protruded portion from the interface 26) defined in the current transformer (16).

As to claims 4, 12, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the current coil arrangement of claim 1 wherein the direction of insertion of the current blade into the utility meter socket defines an axial direction, the axial direction further defining a radial direction and wherein the first current coil further comprises:

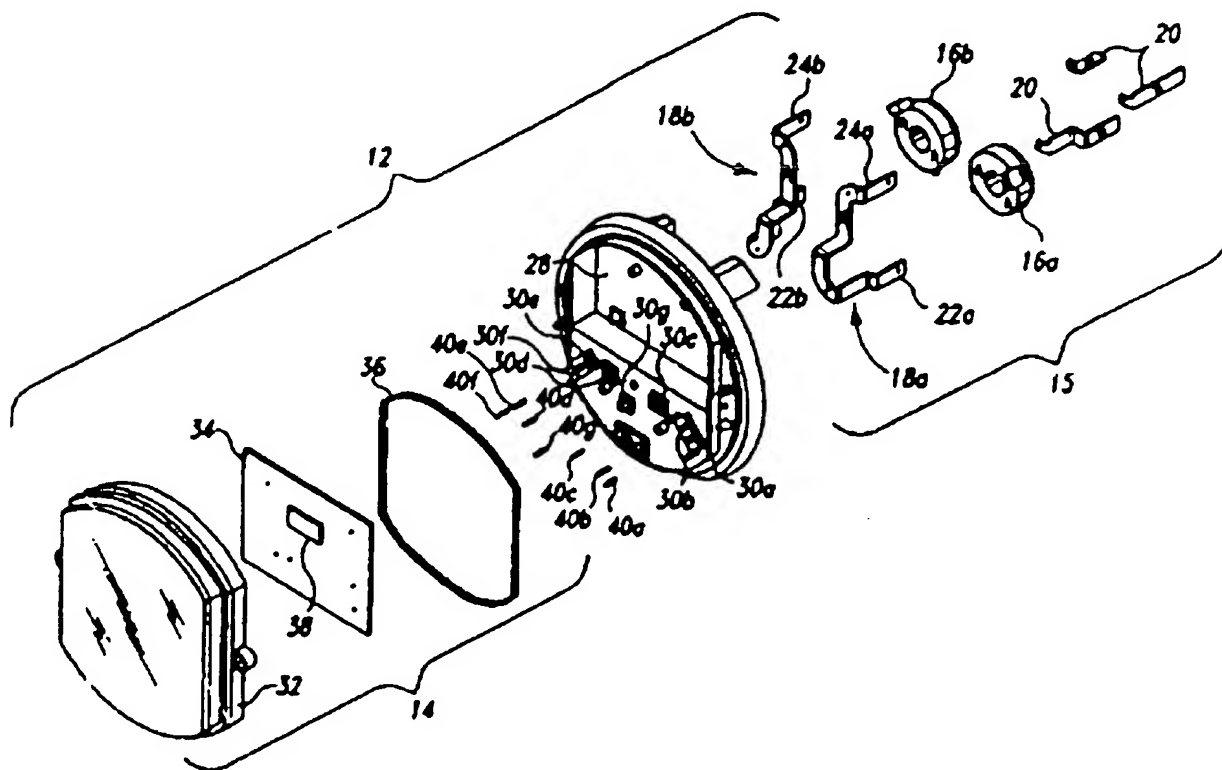
a first section (1, as seen in additional attached below) including a first current blade (22a) , the first section having a length extending in the axial direction;

a second section including a substantially straight portion (2, as seen in additional attached below) having a length extending at least in a first radial direction from the first section;

a third section (3, as seen in additional attached below) having a length extending in the axial direction from the second section;

a fourth section including a substantially straight portion (4, as seen in additional attached below) having a length extending at least in a second radial direction from the third section, wherein the second radial direction at a substantially different angular direction from the axial direction than the first radial direction, and

a fifth section (4, as seen in additional attached below) including a second current blade, the fifth section having a length extending in the axial direction from the fourth section.



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As to claims 5, 13, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the first section (1) extends to a first height that exceeds a second height (2), the fifth section (5) extending to the second height.

As to claims 6, 14, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the current coil arrangement of claim 5, wherein the third section (3) has a third height, and wherein the first height (1) is approximately equal to the sum of the second height (2) and the third height (3).

As to claims 7, 15, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the lengths of the second (2) and fourth section (4) extend in a primarily non-axial direction.

As to claims 8, 16, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the lengths of the second (2) and fourth (4) section extend in different radial directions with respect to the third (3) section.

As to claims 9, 10, 17, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the first current coil (18a) is formed of a flat length of metal.

As to claim 11, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the first current coil (18a) has a length dimension, width dimension and thickness dimension, the first current coil (18a) having a plurality of bends about the width dimension.

As to claims 18, 19, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) a current coil arrangement in an electricity meter, comprising;

a current coil (18a, 18b) including an exposed conductive portion disposed between two meter blades;

a measurement contact element, the measurement contact element including a blade contact portion (22, 24) and circuit board contact portion (34), the circuit board contact (34) portion configured to electrically connect to a circuit board (34) connection, the blade contact portion (22, 24) including a flexible member biased toward and disposed against the exposed conductive portion.

As to claim 20, Jackson et al disclose (figs 1, 2) the circuit board contact portion includes a spring terminal.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 306-5858. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ramtez Nestor , can be reached on 571-272-2034. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jimmy Nguyen

2/18/06


VINH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
A.U. 2829
02/21/06